

# TACKLING WICKED PROBLEMS

THROUGH THE  
TRANSDISCIPLINARY  
IMAGINATION

Valerie A. Brown  
John A. Harris  
Jacqueline Y. Russell

*Tackling Wicked Problems* is a timely, inspirational and important book. [It] should have an important place in both under- and postgraduate courses across a range of university faculties. But it deserves (and we need it) to be far more widely read – by all of us interested in more effective action on the many current and emerging “wicked problems” that threaten to undermine humanity’s future.’

**Ronnie Harding, Foundation Director, Institute of Environmental Studies,  
University of New South Wales, Australia**

‘*Tackling Wicked Problems* offers a unique transdisciplinary approach to inquiry, one that is capable of integrating the natural and social sciences. The book brings together the full range of separate but yet interconnected perspectives that have to be brought to bear on the most challenging questions of our time.’

**Frank Fischer, Professor of Politics and International Studies,  
Rutgers University, USA**

‘I am really delighted to see a work that provides a philosophical foundation for Post-Normal Science, while enriching and expanding its vision. With its themes of plurality, paradox, complementarity and ethical commitment, *Tackling Wicked Problems* provides the means for science to make a creative response to the wicked problems that are facing us today.’

**Jerome Ravetz, James Martin Institute for Science and Civilization,  
University of Oxford, UK**

From climate change to GM foods, we are increasingly confronted with complex, interconnected social and environmental problems that span disciplines, knowledge bases and value systems.

*Tackling Wicked Problems* provides readers with a theoretical framework and practical examples to guide the design and the conduct of their own open-ended enquiries.

**Valerie A. Brown** is Director of the Local Sustainability Project, Fenner School of Environment and Society, Australian National University; and Emeritus Professor of Environmental Health, University of Western Sydney. **John A. Harris** is a university academic, outdoors educator, and former Head of School of Environmental Science, University of Canberra. **Jacqueline Y. Russell** is a postdoctoral research fellow in the Research School of Social Sciences of the Australian National University.

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*Edited by*

*Valerie A. Brown, John A. Harris and Jacqueline Y. Russell*

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